

PASSAGE 5

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

In the twentieth century, people demand on unlimited energy to power their everyday lives. A wide range of energy-run devices and modern conveniences are taken for granted, and although it may seem that we will never be in danger of living without those conveniences, the fact is that many supplies of energy are **dwindling** rapidly. Scientists are constantly searching for new sources of power to keep modern society running. Whether future populations will continue to enjoy the benefits of abundant energy will depend on the success of this research.

Coal, oil, and natural gas supply modern civilization with most of **its** power. However, not only are supplies of these fuels limited, but they are a major source of pollution. If the energy demands of the future are to be met without seriously harming the environment, existing alternative energy sources must be improved or further explored and developed. These include nuclear, water, solar, wind, and geothermal power, as well as energy from new, nonpolluting types of fuels. Each of these alternatives, however, has advantages and disadvantages.

Nuclear power plants efficiently produce large amounts of electricity without polluting the atmosphere; however, they are costly to build and maintain, and they pose the daunting problem of what to do with nuclear wastes. Hydroelectric power is inexpensive and environmentally safe, but impractical for communities located far from moving water. Harnessing energy from tides and waves has similar drawbacks. Solar power holds great promise for the future but methods of collecting and concentrating sunlight are as yet inefficient, as are methods of harnessing wind power.

Every source of energy has its disadvantages. One way to minimize them is to use less energy. Conservation efforts coupled with renewable energy resources, such as a combination of solar, water, wind, and geothermal energy and alternative fuels, such as alcohol and hydrogen, will ensure supplies of clean, affordable energy for humanity's future.

Vocabulary list:

- | | |
|---|---|
| - Energy-run device (n): thiết bị chạy bằng năng lượng | - Take sth for granted (idioms): coi cái gì là đương nhiên |
| - Civilization (n): nền văn minh | - Costly (a): đắt đỏ |
| - Geothermal power (n): địa nhiệt | - Impractical (a): không thực tế |
| - Alternative (a/ n): thay thế/ sự thay thế | - Harness (v): khai thác |
| - Nuclear waste (n): rác thải hạt nhân | - Hold promise for (idioms) : hiệu quả, thành công |
| - Drawback (n) = disadvantage (n): sự hạn chế | - Minimize (v): giảm thiểu, hạn chế |
| | - Affordable (a) có thể chi trả |

Question 1. The passage mainly discusses_____.

- A. the current situation of energy demands
- B. the way to use less energy
- C. the difficulties in finding new sources of energy
- D. the advantages and disadvantages of some sources of energy

Question 2. The word "**dwindling**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to "_____."

- A. rocketing
- B. declining
- C. doubling
- D. distributing

Question 3. According to the passage, which of the following is the limitation of natural gas?

- A. It is difficult to be collected
- B. It is expensive

C. It is polluted

D. It is inaccessible for people who live far away the cities

Question 4. What does the word "its" in paragraph 2 refer to?

A. modern civilization

B. oil

C. natural gas

D. coal

Question 5. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true?

A. Just like coal, nuclear energy is a pollutant to the air.

B. It is hard for people away from the water to use hydroelectric power

C. Scientists are on their way to look for alternative sources of energy.

D. Wind power and solar power have the same problem.

Question 6. What can be inferred from the passage?

A. Scientists will not resume their search for new types of energy until they have found a perfect one.

B. Using hydroelectric energy can be harmful to our atmosphere.

C. It is impossible for some groups of people to enjoy water energy.

D. The only way to decrease the disadvantages of sources of energy is to use them less.

Question 7. What can be inferred about wind power?

A. Combining it and solar energy can ensure humanity's future energy demands.

B. People living away from rivers and oceans cannot benefit it.

C. It is promising but very expensive.

D. An effective way to harness wind power has not been figured out.

Question 8. The author of this passage is trying to_____.

A. support scientists in their search for new sources of energy

B. present some new sources of energy

C. explain the benefits and shortcomings of some kinds of energy

D. calculate the energy demands of the future

